

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 05755 210902Z

21

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /031 W

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Z 210842Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 5194

AMEMBASSY ATHENS FLASH

S E C R E T ANKARA 5755

EXDIS

TO SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR MACOMBER

E.9. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, TU, TU

SUBJ: CYPRUS COUP: TURKISH ACTION AGAINST GREEK SHIPS

1. AT 1050 LOCAL TIME, SHORTLY AFTER SISCO HAD LEFT FOR AIRPORT, I RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM FONMIN GUNES TO EFFECT THAT CHIEF OF TURKISH GENERAL STAFF HAD ADVISED THE ECEVIT GOVT THAT QTE SINCE IT WILL ENTAIL VERY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES, THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES COULD NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DELAYING BOMBING OF APPROACHING GREEK SHIPS BEYOND 1130 LOCAL TIME. UNQTE.

2. I SAID THAT THIS STATEMENT WAS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE USG. I SAID THAT USG FULLY AWARE OF GOT DELAYS IN TREATING WITH THE SISCO MISSION. I SAID WE STILL FOUND IT INCREDIBLE THAT SISCO HAD TO TAKE OFF FOR HIS RETURN VISIT TO TURKEY YESTERDAY WITHOUT FLIGHT PLAN CLEARANCE FROM TURKISH GOVT, DESPITE THE REQUEST HAVING BEEN MADE FOR THIS AMPLY AHEAD OF TIME. I NOTED OUR CONCERN OVER HOW LONG IT HAD TAKEN PRIMIN TO MEET WITH SISCO ONCE HE WAS HERE. I NOTED PARTICULARLY OUR CONCERN OVER THE FACT THAT SISCO'S SECOND MEETING, WHICH HAD BEEN TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR 1100 LAST EVENING DID NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL THIS MORNING. I SAID THAT I KNEW I WAS REFLECTING YOUR VIEWS WHEN I REPEATED THAT IN LIGHT OF THIS RECORD IT WAS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO NOW TELL US THAT WE ONLY HAD THREE-
SECRET

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QUARTERS OF A HOUR TO PREVENT A FURTHER ESCALATING OF THE WAR.

3. THE RESPONSE I RECEIVED WAS THAT MY POSITION WOULD BE
REPORTED AT ONCE TO THE PRIMIN. I GOT WORD OF THIS CONVERSATION TO
SISCO JUST BEFORE HE TOOK OFF FROM ANKARA AND I HAVE ALSO
INFORMED TASCA.
MACOMBER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 21 JUL 1974
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